

# Barre Agency of Human Services Staff Newsletter

February 6, 2007  
5th Issue



*The Agency of Human Services mission is to work as one agency, in partnership with communities, to provide effective services that are delivered respectfully, easy to access, well-coordinated, & aimed at providing well-being & intervening before crisis.*

## Upcoming Events-

**Central Vermont Community Partnership** and our region's **Medicated Assisted Treatment Group** are sponsoring two community meetings on **Methadone Assisted Treatment**. The dates and times are:

- **February 7, 2007 from 7-9 pm and**
- **February 10, 2007 from 10-Noon**

At Central Vermont Hospital in Berlin-conference rooms 1 & 2.

### **Methadone Assisted Treatment meetings (cont'd) -**

Please come to:

- Learn what Methadone Assisted Treatment **IS** and **IS NOT**
- Get answers to your questions
- Express your support for a Central Vermont program

**Aloha!**

**Win \$1,000 gift certificate for travel with Milne Travel**

**Register Feb 14** at Montpelier City Hall for an 8 week program to inspire you to be more active & eat more fruits & vegetables. You'll receive a Hawaiian lei & a log for you to keep track of how active you are; when you're spotted being active (skiing, walking, dancing, lifting, etc.) *in Montpelier* by official volunteer "Life Guards" while wearing a lei, you earn another chance to win the grand prize.

**There's a \$5 registration fee— you must be at least 18 years of age & you must register in person.**

**3 registration times – first come, first served— 9 am first come, first 50; 6pm first 100**

Please note that all participants need to sign up in person, that it is on a first come, first serve basis with staggered registration times to accommodate a variety of schedules. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact **Anne Ferguson** at the VT Dept of Health, Barre District Office-**476-0162**.

Share this with anyone who might be interested in this fun program designed to motivate adults to become more physically active.

**Aloha! Anne Ferguson**

**Upcoming “AHS Staff only” events -**

- **March 2, 2007** - AHS staff buffet luncheon at the Courthouse hosted by Family Services and Probation & Parole from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm
- **April 4, 2007** - “Supporting Parents with Disabilities” training, Penthouse Conference Room, 8:30 am to 4:00 pm—contact Cindy at [cindy.miller@ahs.state.vt.us](mailto:cindy.miller@ahs.state.vt.us) or 479-4406 to register
- **April 12, 2007**—”Beyond the Boxes” facilitated discussion—**POSTPONED INDEFINITELY**
- **April 26 thru 28** – Barre Rotary Home Show, Barre Auditorium (Barre AHS will have a presence with several booths)
- **May 2007** - AHS staff buffet luncheon at McFarland sponsored by Voc Rehab, Health, Economic Services & your field director –
- **May 7 thru 11, 2007**—Public Employee Recognition Week—a time to celebrate the achievements of our AHS staff—more to follow
- **June 2007**—4th Barre AHS Staff Day—we’ll shortly send out details about our AHS Staff Day

For information about any of the above events, please contact Don at 479-7594 or [don.mandelkorn@ahs.state.vt.us](mailto:don.mandelkorn@ahs.state.vt.us) or Cindy Miller at 479-4406 or [cindy.miller@ahs.state.vt.us](mailto:cindy.miller@ahs.state.vt.us).

## **Resources & Information -**

### **The Commodity Supplemental Food Program**

#### **What is it?**

The commodity supplemental food program is a USDA nutrition program that offers free monthly nutrition information & nutritious foods like canned fruits & veggies, fruit juices, cereal & cheese.

#### **Who's eligible?**

- 60 years of age or older, living in Vermont & income-eligible.
- A child under 6 years of age & not already in the WIC program.
- A woman who is pregnant or post-partum for less than a year or not already in the WIC program.
- Individual &/or household income will be used to determine eligibility.

**CALL NOW!    1-800-241-4648**

### **Deter Project**

Our area recently received Deter funds via the Health Dept to enhance our efforts to reduce the rate of incarceration for women from our area. Our project brings together several partners and incorporates the 4 key practices. The key elements are:

- all women from our district in jail waiting to be released are eligible to receive a comprehensive substance abuse/mental health assessment through Central VT Substance Abuse Services
- Based on the results of that assessment, the women will be assigned a clinician from CVSAS and that treatment can begin while the women await release
- A re-entry team will be convened under the auspices of our service coordination model thru Central VT Community Action Council

### **Deter Project (cont'd) -**

- support services from Women Evolving will be provided as needed
- Program evaluation component through the Central Vermont Community Partnership

If you want more details, contact JoAnne Pereira at 479-4244 or [joannep@doc.state.vt.us](mailto:joannep@doc.state.vt.us) or Don at 479-7594 or [don.mandelkorn@ahs.state.vt.us](mailto:don.mandelkorn@ahs.state.vt.us)

### **Prevention Focus Group -**

On January 29, 2007, a group of Barre AHS managers and supervisors met to discuss how we, in our current roles and practices, focus on prevention activities. Kelly Young, chairperson from the Woodbury College Prevention and Community Development Program, led the group through a series of questions to encourage us to think more broadly about our work and its connection to prevention.

The group discussed a wide range of ideas. We'll synthesize those thoughts soon and bring them back to staff. One of the ideas that may have merit right away was to create a prevention focus to our upcoming 4th Barre AHS Staff Day (date to be announced shortly).

Another idea that has come up periodically is to ask each office to share success stories through this newsletter. We've started to collect those stories and will begin including them in upcoming newsletters.

### **Thanks -**

If you have comments, ideas for this newsletter (this one is for staff-only), let us know:

Don at [don.mandelkorn@ahs.state.vt.us](mailto:don.mandelkorn@ahs.state.vt.us)  
Cindy at [cindy.miller@ahs.state.vt.us](mailto:cindy.miller@ahs.state.vt.us)